AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (New) A storage stable aqueous emulsion comprising a mixture of:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a (poly)isocyanate (A) having a dynamic viscosity of at least 3 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water; and

(c) 3 to 20 parts by weight of a surface-active agent (B) exhibiting an HLB of at least 10;

wherein the relative quantities of water and surface-active agent (B) are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and surface-active agent is at least about one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate (A), and wherein said emulsion has a particle size of about 0.1 to 5 μm.

10. (New) The emulsion of claim 9, wherein the (poly)isocyanate is a masked (poly)isocyanate.

11. (New) The emulsion of claim 10, wherein the masked (poly)isocyanate is masked with a functional group selected from the group consisting of alcohols, thiols, oximes, hydroxylamines, acids, amides, imides, beta diketones, and pyrazoles.

12. (New) The emulsion of claim 10, wherein the masked (poly)isocyanate (A) has a viscosity of about 30 to 2,500 Pa·s at 25°C.

13. (New) The emulsion of claim 10, wherein the resulting emulsion has a solids content of from about 25% to 98%.

14. (New) A storage stable aqueous emulsion comprising a mixture of:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a (poly)isocyanate (A) having a dynamic viscosity of at least 3 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water;

(c) 0.5 to 10 parts by weight of at least one surface-active agent (B) exhibiting an HLB of at least 10; and

(d) 2.5×10^{-4} to 20 parts by weight of a thickening water-soluble polymer (C) of molecular mass greater than 10,000 g/mole;

wherein the relative quantities of water and constituents (B) and (C) are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and constituents (B) and (C) is at least one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate (A), and wherein said emulsion has a particle size of about 0.1 to 5 μm.

15. (New) The emulsion of claim 14, wherein the (poly)isocyanate is a masked (poly)isocyanate.

16. (New) The emulsion of claim 15, wherein the masked (poly)isocyanate is masked with a functional group selected from the group consisting of alcohols, thiols, oximes, hydroxylamines, acids, amides, imides, beta diketones, and pyrazoles.

17. (New) The emulsion of claim 15, wherein the masked (poly)isocyanate (A) has a viscosity of about 30 to 2,500 Pa·s at 25°C.

18. (New) The emulsion of claim 15, wherein the resulting emulsion has a solids content of from about 25% to 98%.

19. (New) The emulsion of claim 14, wherein the thickening polymers (C) are soluble to at least 50% (by weight) in water and are selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols, polyvinylpyrrolidones, alkali metal polyacrylates, carrageenans, alginates, methyl celluloses, hydroxypropyl celluloses, and hydroxymethyl celluloses.

20. (New) The emulsion of claim 9, wherein the poly(isocyanate) (A) has at least one isocyanate functional group in which the nitrogen is bonded to a saturated carbon.

21. (New) The emulsion of claim 14, wherein the (poly)isocyanate (A) has at least one isocyanate functional group in which the nitrogen is bonded to a saturated carbon.

22. (New) An aqueous emulsion prepared by a process which comprises blending a mixture of:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a (poly)isocyanate (A) having a dynamic viscosity of at least about 3 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water; and

(c) 3 to 20 parts by weight of a surface-active agent (B);

wherein the surface active agent exhibits an HLB of at least 10 and the relative quantities of water and constituent (B) are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and surface-active agent (B) is at least about one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate (A);

and wherein said blending is carried out over a period and in shear conditions sufficient to obtain an oil-in-water emulsion with a particle size of about 0.1 to 5 μm.

23. (New) An aqueous emulsion prepared by a process which comprises blending a mixture of:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a (poly)isocyanate (A) having a dynamic viscosity of at least about 3 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water;

(c) 3 to 20 parts by weight of a surface-active agent (B); and

(d) $2.5x10^{-4}$ to 20 parts by weight of a thickening water-soluble polymer (C) of molecular mass greater than 10,000 g/mole;

wherein the surface active agent exhibits an HLB of at least 10 and the relative quantities of water and constituents (B) and (C) are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and constituents (B) and (C) is at least about one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate (A);

and wherein said blending is carried out over a period and in shear conditions sufficient to obtain an oil-in-water emulsion with a particle size of about 0.1 to 5 μm.

24. (New) A storage stable oil-in-water emulsion comprising:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a polyisocyanate oil, gum, resin or mixtures thereof having a dynamic viscosity of about 30 to about 2,500 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water; and

(c) 3 to 20 parts by weight of a surface-active agent exhibiting an HLB of at least 10;

wherein the relative quantities of water and surface-active agent are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and surface-active agent I at least about one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate, wherein said emulsion has a particle size of about 0.2 to 3 μm, a particle size distribution d_{90}-d_{10} not greater than 4 μm, and a solids content of about 25% to 98%.

25. (New) The oil-in-water emulsion according to claim 24, where the polyisocyanate corresponds to the formula:

$$A(\text{-NCOblock})_p \qquad (I)$$

wherein A denotes an organic backbone, p is an integer of 2 to 7 and NCOblock represents a masked isocyanate group.

26. (New) The oil-in-water emulsion according to claim 24, wherein the emulsion has a particle size distribution d_{90}-d_{10} not greater than 1.

27. (New) The oil-in-water emulsion according to claim 24, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of polymethylene diisocyanates, biurets and dimers and trimers of polymethylene diisocyanates, and prepolymers of polyisocyanates reacted with polyols or polyol-polyamines or polyol polyesters.

28. (New) The oil-in-water emulsion according to claim 24, wherein the polyisocyanate is masked with a compound containing a mobile hydrogen whose pKa is 14 or less.

29. (New) A storage stable oil-in-water emulsion comprising:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a polyisocyanate oil, gum, resin or mixtures thereof having a dynamic viscosity of about 30 to 2,500 Pa·s at 25°C;

(b) 2 to 20 parts by weight of water;

(c) 0.5 to 10 parts by weight of at least one surface-active agent (B) exhibiting an HLB of at least 10; and

(d) 0.001 to 15 parts by weight of a thickening water-soluble polymer (C) of molecular mass greater than 10,000 g/mole selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols, polyvinylpyrrolidones, alkali metal

polyacrylates, carrageenans, alginates, methyl celluloses, hydroxypropyl celluloses, and hydroxymethyl celluloses,

wherein the relative quantities of water and constituents (B) and (C) are such that the viscosity of the mixture of water and constituents (B) and (C) is at least one tenth the viscosity of the (poly)isocyanate (A), and wherein said emulsion has a particle size of about 0.2 to 3 μm, a particle size distribution d_{90}-d_{10} not greater than 1, and a solids content of about 25% to 98%.